

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on 27 March 2008. **Claims 1-11, 13, and 18** are now pending in the present application and **claims 12, 14-17, and 19-27** are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11, 13, and 18 allowed.

Reasons For Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - a. **Claims 1-11, 13, and 18**, the claims are allowed in view of applicant's amendment and accompanying remarks.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WILLIE J. DANIEL JR whose telephone number is (571)272-7907. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on (571) 272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/WJD,JR/

WJD,JR
04 June 2008

/Charles N. Appiah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617